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A

DROP OF HONEY

FROM the ROCK

CHRIST,

The CROWN and GLORY to the SAINTS EVERLASTING REST,

By the Rev. Mr ALEXANDER MONCRIEF, *Late Miniſter of the Goſpel at* Abernethy.

With a SPIRITUAL HYMN: Every VIRTUE is a STEP to ETERNITY.

MATTHEW xi. 28, 29, 30.

Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you reſt: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye ſhall find reſt to your ſouls: For my yoke is eaſy, and my burden is light.

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THE CROWN and GLORY OF CHRISTIANITY.

CHRISTIANS, ſeek good and not evil, that you may live, and the Lord will be with you; God will maintain you all your days in his ſervice; he will be your guide even unto death: whilſt you have a day to live. God will ſtand by you, he will never leave you nor forſake you. Surely goodneſs and mercy ſhall follow you all the days of your lives, and the Lord will never turn away from doing you good: I will be a huſband unto you, and will betrothe you unto me for ever: you ſhall not need to fear, I will give you my heart, I will be a father unto you, and you ſhall be my ſons and daughters: Therefore, *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give reſt unto your ſouls: for my yoke is eaſy, and my burden is light:* I will be a ſhepherd to you for no evil, for I am with you, you ſhall not wander nor be loſt, for I will reſtore you: *I will cauſe you to lie down in green paſtures, and lead you beſide the ſtill waters:* I will be a phyſician to you, *I will heal your backſlidings and cure all your diſeaſes:* therefore, fear not, never did a ſoul miſcarry, that left itſelf in God's

God's hands, *I will be a God unto your children:* consider how happy your condition will be, if in time you repent and forsake your sins: then God will be your father, Christ will be your brother, and the Holy Spirit will be your comforter: You shall be filled with the joy of the Holy Ghost; you shall have the free pardon of all your sins; so that they shall be remembered no more.

O my soul! dost not thou see the chariots of fire and horses of fire come to take thee up? be thou as poor as Lazarus, yet God will not disdain to send a party of angels to conduct thee home: fear not my soul, as if thou was going to a strange place, why heaven is thy country and thy home; why my soul, thou wast born from above, and here is thy Father's house, and therefore thou shalt surely be admitted, and shall see thy glorious preparation of eternal love. Methinks I hear already how the morning stars sing together, and all the sons of God shout for joy. The Lord hath spoken it, you shall see his face, and his name shall be written in your foreheads, and you shall no more need the sun nor the moon, for the Lord God shall give you light, and you shall reign with God for ever and ever.------Therefore hold out and be saved, overcome and reign, *be faithful unto death, and he will give thee a crown of life.* This is the plain case, obey and live, or die for ever. I will be his servant, let others chuse whom they will, as for me, O my soul, serve thou the Lord.

This resolution, thus founded, is likely to stand; Should I wrong my God? Hath he ever done me wrong? Hath he not been ever good to me? kind, pitiful, patient, and bountiful, who hath fed me, cloathed me, kept me, comforted me: what friend have I in the world, what father, what mother, what friend, what portion, what hope, but in the Lord? what

what was I, what had I but woe and misery, had I not God? therefore I love God above all, with all my soul, he is always my hope, and always my desire! what a miserable creature were I, if it were not for my hope in God? what would all the world be to me, if I should lose my soul? but dost thou speak as in earnest? dost thou think what thou speakest? yea, saith the sinner, I gladly commit myself to thee, and trust myself with thee, I set my hope in thee, I take up my rest with thee; Lord, let me hear thee say, "I am thy God and thy salvation, and I have "enough," *come unto me all ye ends of the earth, and ye shall be saved, for I am God, and there is none else but me.*——Now put on thy wedding-garment, and go and marry thyself to Jesus Christ, and say, "I am thine, and all I have, my body, "my soul, my name, my estate; I gave my heart "to thee, I will be thine everlastingly."

If it be so, then the Lord will give thee the desire of thy heart, thou shalt have whatsoever thou desirest, keep the desires of the heart towards God, and use the means which I have subscribed, and ye shall flourish in the courts of our God, *God's Spirit will be as the dew unto you, and ye shall grow as the lilly, and shout forth your roots as Lebanon, and your beauty shall be as the olive-tree: you shall still bring forth fruit in old age: you shall be fat and flourishing: I will be the staff of bread to your life, and the strength of your days, and I will be the house and home to you, and you shall dwell in me, and I in you.* I will repair your losses, and relieve your needs. Are you in want? You knew where to come: I am ever at home, you shall not go away empty from my door, I will serve you when friends fail you, and your hearts fail, when your acquaintance leave you, and your souls leave you, my bosom shall be open to you, I will lock up your dust, I will receive

your

your ſouls, *I am the God of Abraham, and of Iſaac, and of Jacob*, and whatever I have been to them, I will be to you.

Here is mercy for the worſt of ſinners; behold I have ſpread the table of my goſpel for you, with privileges and comforts, that no man taketh from you, I have ſet before you the bread and water of life, eat friend and drink abundantly, ſatisfy your ſelf with the fatneſs of God's houſe, and heaven ſhall reward you all; and ſo may you be for ever with the Lord.

Now bleſſed is he that hath believed, for there will be a performance of the things that have been told him: for no ſooner will your doom be paſt but the bench will riſe, and the Judge will return with all the glorious train of angels, and the ſound of a trumpet, and with an incredible ſhout will he aſcend and carry you to your father's houſe; then will the angels lift up their heads, and the everlaſting gates ſtand open, and the heavens will receive you all; in ſhort he will make you like to the angels of God, and you will be the everlaſting trumpets of his praiſe; and beſides all this, whenſoever death comes, whether ſooner or later, you ſhall be ſure of heaven, and as for your bodies, they will be laid in the grave, as in the bed of Chriſt, there to reſt until the glorious morning of the reſurrection, then will you be received into heaven, the place of reſt, with joy and bliſs; then you ſhall meet with your dear friends and relations that departed in the fear of God, and no tongue can expreſs the joy you will have one with another to all eternity. Then you may be able to ſay at the great day, "Yonder ſits the Son of God, "whoſe blood was ſhed for my ſalvation;" which the Lord of his great mercy grant. Amen

The SAINTS *Triumph over* DEATH.

THOUGH on me heavy trials come,
And death's ſtrokes on me fall;
My faith and hope ſhall not ſuccumb,
But triumph o'er them all:
I know that my Redeemer lives,
Who pleads my cauſe with God,
To ſave each ſoul that him believes,
He comes to ſhed his blood:

Then for a while he'll go away,
But will return again,
And on the earth at latter day
Stand with a glorious train;
Though in the grave my body fall,
And worms do it conſume,
Ev'n ſkin and fleſh, blood, bones, and all;
Yet death I'll overcome:

My Lord will raiſe me from the duſt,
He'll clothe my bones with fleſh,
I'll ſee my God in whom I truſt,
which will my ſoul refreſh;
That fleſh, which all conſumed was,
The very ſame ſhall riſe;
Yet I will ſee Chriſt's lovely face
With thoſe my very eyes.

A Divine HYMN.

THE man alone long life deſerves,
And his years ſweetly paſs,
Who holds a treaſure in his breaſt,
Whoſe worth doth all ſurpaſs;
What can we want of outward things,
Who hath this pearl of price,
Which we ſhould buy at any rate,
And all things elſe deſpiſe?

Woes

Woes me! How much do other men
In ſeas of trouble live,
Whoſe ruins oft, and endleſs cares,
Even things they wiſh to have?
'Tis he alone in earneſt can
Wiſh for his dying day;
All mankind's terror; yea, with tears
Expoſtulate its ſtay:

O! would to God, my ſoul juſt now,
Were rais'd to ſuch a frame,
As freely to part hence, which ſoon
Muſt be though I reclaim:
This preſent flies, another life
Is ſwiftly haſting on;
The way that leads to which, is through
The croſs of Chriſt alone:

How canſt thou, without grief and tears
Think on theſe impious wounds
Which thou didſt cauſe, through which to thee
Salvation free rebounds?
Thou who ſhuns all fatigue, and gives
Thyſelf to ſoft delight:
With what aſſurance canſt thou crave,
What is thy labour's right?

If a ſtrict life thou canſt not reach,
At leaſt let him not ſee
Thee much unlike himſelf, with whom
Thou would partaker be:
That which reſembles moſt the ſun,
We truly may call bright;
And what is moſt like to the ſnow,
Will whiteſt be to ſight:

Theſe things are ſweet, which in their taſte,
With honey may compare,
And theſe are ſwift which can contend
With the light flying air;

So ſure the more thou art like CHRIST,
More perfect thou'rt indeed;
For of all true perfection he
Both pattern is and head.

Who are perſuaded of this truth,
When ſore afflictions grieve:
This comfort have that ev'n in this,
They more like CHRIST do live.

Men of this ſtamp are very ſcarce,
Whoſe virtue doth them beat
Above the vulgar; for what's great,
Difficult is, and rare:

But we to mind ſalvation's work,
Will never be adviſ'd:
And that all things are vanity
Till death hath us ſurpriz'd:
Then to reflect we firſt begin,
And our paſt lives abhor,
And all thoſe empty joys, which we
So much admir'd before.

Then under terrors, we would fly
To CHRIST the only rock
Of life; whom in proſperity
We never did invoke;
The fear that can no merit have
Drives us t'implore his grace:
So great's his mercy, that in vain
We ne'er ſhall ſeek his face.

But yet we ought, without delay,
Examine our eſtate;
And ſaving int'reſt get in CHRIST,
Far better ſoon than late:
If any other way we ſeek
Our paſſions to oppoſe,
Or get tranquillity of mind;
We time and labour loſe.

FINIS.

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